

**CLAIMS**

1 (ORIGINAL) Improved seal; of the type which comprise a thin body (1), one end of which is solidly connected to a panel (2), and the  
5 opposite end is intended to be housed in a tubular passage with means for supporting the seal in a position for use; characterized in that it comprises a head (3) which adjoins the panel (2) and is attached to said panel (2) by means of a weakened portion of material (4) which forms a rupture line and enables the seal to be used with the head (3) connected to the panel (2), the  
10 seal forming a closed loop in the position for use, or enables the seal to be used when detached from the head (3) of the panel (2), the thin element (1) adopting an open configuration and the panel (2) and the head (3) both forming stoppers in the ends of said thin element (1) in the seal's position for use.

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2 (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Seal, according to the [preceding claim] claim 1, characterized in that the head (3) comprises an outer tubular body (31), moulded together with the panel (2), a metal plate (32) used to support the thin element (1) in the seal's closed position, and an inner tubular  
20 body (33) mounted coaxially, together with the metal plate (32), inside said outer tubular body (31).

3 (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Seal, according to [the preceding claims] claim 2, characterized in that the outer tubular body (31) has a small  
25 opening (31a) in one of its ends, which is of an appropriate size to allow the

thin element (1) to be inserted through it, and in the opposite end is a larger opening (31b) in which the metal plate (32) and the inner tubular body (33) are inserted, the aforementioned larger opening (31b) being fixed, preferably heat-soldered, onto the inner tubular body (33).

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4 (CURRENTLY AMENDED)                      Seal, according to [the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that, in the part through which the thin body (1) passes, the metal plate (32) has a truncated cone configuration with flaps (32a) around the outer edge which converge in the direction in which the thin  
10 body (1) enters inside the head (3).

5 (CURRENTLY AMENDED)                      Seal, according to [the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the thin body (1) has a smooth surface and its free end has a section (11) with a diameter which is slightly smaller  
15 than the rest of the section, making it easier to insert in the head (3).